Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 06778 231201Z

11
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 /026 W
---------- 088436
O R 231100Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4687
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSN AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USUN NEW YORK 4248
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 6778

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, IS, XF
SUBJ: ALLON ON RENEWAL OF UNDOF MANDATE

DEPAT PLS PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY

1. DURING NOV. 22 CONVERSTATION WITH FONMIN ALLON I ASKED FOR HIS VIEWS ON UDOF MANDATE RENEWAL ISSUE. ALLON SAID HE THOUGHT THAT, IN THE END, THE SYRIANS WOULD RENEW. IF THEY DID, HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FOR NOT LESS THAN SIX MONTHS.

2. ALLON SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT SYRIANS WERE READY FOR A WAR OR, THAT EGYPTIANS WERE EITHER AND DID NOT WANT ONE. GIVEN SYRIANS DEPENDENCE ON SOVIET SUPPORT, HE THOUGHT IT HIGHLY ILLOGICAL FOR SOVIETS TO AGREE TO A SYRIAN ACTION WHICH COULD LEAD TO HOSTILITIES OR, AT A MINIMUM, BE HIGHLY DESTABILIZING IN ME AREA. THIS WOULD BE ESPECILLY TRUE ONLY A FEW DAYS AFTER PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH BREZHNEV IN VLADIVOSTOCK WHERE, HE THOUGHT, SOVIETS WOULD BE MAKING MAJOR EFFORT TO PERSUADE NEW PRESIDENT TO CONTINUE " DETENTE" POLICIES. OF COURSE, ISRAEL HAD TO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY THAT LOGIC WOULD NOT BE GUIDING PRINCIPLE IN SITUATION AND ARAB EUPHORIA IN AFTERMATH OF RABAT AND UNGA
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TEL AV 06778 231201Z

COULD HAVE DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES.

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

3. ALLON TOLD ME THAT GOI CONSIDERED THAT UNDOF PRESENCE WAS PART
AND PARCEL OF DISENGAGEMENT AGREENT, THOUGH NO FORMAL POSITION HAD
YET BEEN TAKEN. IT THAT ELEMENT WERE REMOVED, ISRAELIS
WOULD CONSIDER REST OF ARRANGEMENT TO BE INVALID (HE SAID
GOVT LAWYERS WERE UNANIMOUSLY OF THIS OPINION). I ASKED ALLON
WHAT HE ENVISAGED I* MANDATE WERE NOT RENEWED, MENTIONING ARTICLES

IN ISRAELI PRESS AND RDIO COMMENTS, AMONG OTHERS ONE BY CHAIM
HERZOG, FORMER GENERAL AND RESPECTED MILITARY COMMENTATOR, THAT THIS
WOULD CONSITITUTE A CAUSUS BELLI. ALLON QUICKLY PUT THAT IDEA
DOWN AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED, THOUGH HE SAID THERE WERE ELEMENTS
IN AND OUT OF GOVT, INCLUDING SOME INFLUENTIAL MINISTERS, WHO
WERE THINKING IN SUCH TERMS. IN ORDER TO PREVENT PREMATURE
AND UNHELPFUL HARDENING OF POSITION ON THIS ISSUE, HE SAID
HE HAD ASKED PM RABIN TO DELAY CABINET CONSIDERATION OF
SUBJECT FOR ANOTHER WEEK, DESPITE NEARING DEADLINE.

4. IN RESPONSE TO A FURTHER QUESTION, ALLON CONFIRMED THAT IN
HIS VIEW REMOVAL OF UNDO ALONE WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT
REASON TO GO TO WAR. HOWEVER, ANY CHANGE IN ARRANGEMENTS ON GROUND,
WHETHER MOVEMENT OF FORCES INTO BUFFER ZONE OR INTRODUCTION OF
ADDITIONAL WEAPONS INTO LIMITED ARMAMENTS ZONES,
WOULD BE SOMETHING ELSE. IN ANY EVENT, ALLON SAID, UNDOF
REMOVAL WOULD CREATE SITUATION OF SUCH TENSION AND FRAGILITY
THAT IT WAS HARD TO SEE HOW SERIOUS DETERIORATION OF SECURITY
SITUATION COULD BE AVOIDED.

5. ALLON CONTINUED BY OBSERVING THAT WHILE ISRAELIS COULD NOT
MAKE SYRIANS RENEW MANDATE, THEY WERE TRYING TO ASSURE THAT SYRIANS
WERE AWARE OF IMPLICATIONS OF A FAILURE TO DO SO. HE NOTED THAT
SOME MILITARY EXPERTS THOUGH THAT A WINTER WAR ON THE GOLAN-
WITH WEATHER AND GROUND CONDITIONS THAT MIGHT LIMIT FULL
EFFECTIVENESS OF ISRAELI AIR AND ARMOR- WOULD SIMILARLY AFFECT
SYRIANS.

6. ALLON CONCLUDED CONVERSATION BY SAYING THAT HE HAD IN-
STRUCTED HIS KEY AMBASSADORS TO ASSURE THAT ALL
INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS WERE FULLY INFORMED OF SERIOUSNESS
OF SITUATION AND WERE AWARE OF HOW UNDOF WITHDRAWAL WOULD
SECRET

SECRET

ADVERSELY AFFECT THEIR INTERESTS. ISRAEL WOULD NOT
BEG FOR INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT IN THIS SITUATION; IT WAS
UP TO GOVERNMENTS TO SEE WHERE THEIR INTERESTS LAY.

7. COMMENT: THROUGHOUT OUR DISCUSSION ALLON MAINTAINED A
CALM AND OBJECTIVE ATTITUDE, THOUGH THIS ISSUE, WITH ITS
RAPIDLY BURNING FUSE, IS BEGINNING TO PREOCCUPLY ISRAELI
POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERSHIP. ALLON, ALONG WITH

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

VIRTUALLY EVERYONE ELSE IN ISRAEL, IS OBVISUSLY CONFIDENT THAT ISRAEL COULD WIN A WAR WITH SYRIA NOW, IF WAR WAS FORCED UPON HER. HOWEVER, HE APPEARED TO SINCERELY WISH TO AVOID EXACCERBATION OF SITUATION IN NORTH IN DAYS AHEAD.
KEATING

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY'S PARTY.

SECRET

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WAR, DETENTE, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TELAV06778
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740340-0530
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741117/aaaaanwx.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLON ON RENEWAL OF UNDOF MANDATE DEPAT PLS PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY
TAGS: PFOR, IS, XF, UNDOF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005